MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 JULY 1982

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iranian Offensive -- A Joint Iranian Armed Forces and Guards Corps communique broadcast by Tehran radio announced that in a new "extended offensive" against Iraq entitled "Operation Ramadan," Iranian forces crossed enemy lines and continued their advance. Tehran radio's Arabic service reported that hundreds of Iraqis were captured. Confirming the Iranian attack, an Iraqi communique carried by Baghdad radio said the Iranians had attempted to cross the Iraqi border in the Basra sector. According to a subsequent Iraqi communique broadcast by the radio, the Iraqis checked the Iranians, who had penetrated 10-km inside Iraq on a 10-km front. The Iraqis then counterattacked and forced the Iranians to retreat, the communique claimed.

Earlier, Abadan oil installations were hit by Iraqi weapons' fire, an Iranian communique carried by Tehran radio noted.

UN Resolution -- The Iranian Foreign Ministry condemned the UN Security Council resolution calling for a cease-fire and the deployment of peacekeeping forces as a "plot" by the superpowers to prevent Iran from gaining its "natural rights," Tehran radio reported.

Lebanon

Israeli Position -- Although Israel has serious doubts about the success of the negotiations, it will provide "full time" to exhaust the political option as long as the United States believes there is a chance for a political solution, Jerusalem television reported citing government sources. Jerusalem radio likewise said Israel will permit U.S. envoy Philip Habib to continue his efforts as long as the diplomatic alternative seems "feasible." Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said the government still hopes to exhaust the negotiations, although it seems the chances of the talks succeeding have decreased, the radio noted.

While senior officials said Israel is willing to pursue the negotiations for a few more days, they denied Israel will give the diplomatic process another 30 days as recommended by U.S. Secretary of State Designate George Shultz, according to the 14 July JERUSALEM POST. Asserting that the U.S. administration appears to be going along with the PLO's "game" by attempting to allow the "terrorists" a month's breathing space that would allow them to recover and would prevent Israel from attaining its goals, Jerusalem radio said Israel is apprehensive that as the negotiations drag on, the United States may soften its position toward the PLO and harden its attitude toward Israel.

Although Israel does not reject the PLO's 11-point plan outright, it regards the plan as "almost impossible," Jerusalem television reported citing informed circles. Noting that the plan would make it difficult for the IDF to ascertain whether the PLO had indeed withdrawn from Beirut and handed over its heavy weapons to the Lebanese Army, the television said Israel demands "reasonable arrangements" to ensure that this withdrawal and disarmament occur and that the multinational force will not prove an obstacle to an IDF operation if the "terrorists" change their mind and decide to remain in Beirut. Asserting that the talks are "leading nowhere," senior Israeli officials said the negotiations must be accompanied by intermittent military actions, according to THE JERUSALEM POST. Israeli policymakers are considering a range of military options that fall short of a massive assault on west Beirut, the paper said.

PLO Position, Lebanese Contacts -- PLO Deputy Commander in Chief Khalil al-Wazir reaffirmed that the Palestinian Resistance's principles for a settlement call for an IDF withdrawal from Beirut, disengagement and the arrival of an international force to guarantee the security of the refugee camps and the Lebanese Nationalist forces, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio noted.

In a U.S. television interview, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat stressed the need to start a direct dialogue between the PLO and the United States, according to Beirut radio. The radio also noted that former Lebanese Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam was trying to arrange a meeting between Philip Habib and 'Arafat's adviser Hani al-Hasan, who meanwhile held a long meeting with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. In other contacts, Al-Wazzan discussed the supply situation in west Beirut with Habib, Voice of Lebanon radio said, and earlier discussed proposals for the international force in meetings with the Greek and French ambassadors, Beirut radio noted. France has submitted new proposals to resolve the Beirut crisis, the latter source reported, citing circles in Beirut.

In Paris, Palestine National Council member 'Isam as-Sartawi appealed for the United States to officially recognize the PLO and start contacts with it, MENA reported. Speaking at a seminar, As-Sartawi said the PLO is ready to meet with any Israeli who is willing to accept mutual recognition. Meanwhile, PLO International Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi said in Vienna that the PLO will only consider Egypt's offer to host a Palestinian government-in-exile after the present crisis is resolved, Vienna radio reported. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Qaddumi expressed optimism that the Austrian chancellor will do something for the Palestinians through the Socialist International.

Khaddam in U.S. -- Citing official Damascus sources, Monte Carlo radio reported that Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam would leave for Washington on 13 July for talks on the Lebanese crisis with U.S. officials.

Military Situation -- The cease-fire agreement held during 13 July and early 14 July, and "guarded calm" prevailed despite several incidents, Beirut radio reported. Shelling and sniping was concentrated on the Al-Hadath area in southern Beirut, according to Voice of Lebanon and Beirut radio reports. An explosion near the Palestinian Research Center in Beirut resulted in 2 dead and 30 injured, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, the radio noted that civilian cars were allowed to cross in both directions between east and west Beirut. Gunmen ambushed an IDF patrol near 'Alayh on 13 July, injuring six Israeli soldiers, Jerusalem radio reported. Military experts assessed that 35,000 Israeli soldiers are deployed around Beirut with 300 tanks and over 100 artillery pieces, Beirut radio noted.

Tunis Summit Canceled — Tunisia has canceled its invitation to hold an Arab summit conference on Lebanon because of insufficient response to the invitation and fear that the desired result could not be attained unless all participated at the highest level, according to a presidential statement carried by Tunis radio. KUNA noted that the Tunisian Government expected a new date to be set for the summit.

Iran

Security forces for Raja'i succeeded in crushing 80 percent of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization in Karaj, arresting 50 members, JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI claimed.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS REVIEWS FOOD, FUEL SUPPLY

LD132008 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 13 Jul 82

[Text] The Coordinating Bureau of the Council of Ministers' Department of Cooperation reports that the 12 July session of the DRA Council of Ministers was chaired by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers, at the council's headquarters. According to the agenda, the meeting discussed and made decisions on the proposals of ministries and departments.

In connection with maintaining the people's material needs, the Council of Ministers' Executive Committee made a series of important decisions concerning the stability of wholesale and retail prices, industrial production and primary consumer goods prices and implementation of the decisions against price increases in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

According to this decision, the department for procurement of foodstuffs and silos, the Afghan vegetable company, the department of consumer goods cooperative development and other state and cooperative departments under the Ministry of Commerce and the union of cooperatives of the DRA farmers were obligated to provide the public's needs in agricultural production and to supply them for sale through state shops.

The relevant government departments have been instructed to prepare the method of sale of industrial goods, taking into consideration commercial requirements, fixed retail prices and the (?trade-marking) of the goods, in order to more easily control the prices of goods and so that the consumers, with confidence in quality and quantity, may obtain the goods they need. The relevant departments from time to time fix the prices of the main consumer and industrial goods and, after approval, publish them for the information of the people.

The Council of Ministers' Executive Committee commissioned the DRA Economic Advisory Council to attempt the pricing of industrial production and commercial goods of the private sector, taking into consideration the principle of avoiding (?unfair) profit, and to struggle against the storage of goods for the purpose of embezzlement.

The Executive Committee ordered the relevant state departments to prepare proposals for fixing the prices of wholesale and retail goods, taking into consideration the just norms and avoiding fraud.

The Council of Ministers' resolution instructs the department of foodstuffs and silos to increase the production of bread in Kabul, and to sell it in all wards of Kabul city through their commercial network at its fixed price. Kabul municipality, with the cooperation of social organizations, is to control the fixed price of bread in the private sector.

The Council of Ministers' Executive Committee made a decision concerning stability of the price of meat in Kabul city. It has ordered the Ministry of Commerce to import a fixed amount of chicken and meat to distribute to the citizens through state shops at a fair price.

The Council of Ministers' Executive Committee also discussed the need to avoid the use of wood for fuel, in order to protect the greenery of the country and to avoid extra expenditure of electric energy. It has ordered that a sufficient quantity of liquid gas should be imported from the Soviet Union and should be supplied, under suitable and easy conditions, first to Kabul citizens and at a later stage to other main cities of the country.

The Council of Ministers' Executive Committee decided that the DRA Government, by utilizing all possibilities, is making efforts in accordance with the progressive and popular policy of the PDPA and the instructions of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, to provide the necessary facilities for supplying the people with primary consumer goods at fair prices, and is fruitfully fulfilling the needs of the dear compatriots.

AFP: SOVIET-AFGHAN FORCES RECAPTURE PAGHMAN

BK131727 Hong Kong AFP in English 1714 GMT 13 Jul 82

[By Alain Faudeux]

[Text] Islamabad, July 13 (AFP) -- Soviet-Afghan forces have recaptured the town of Paghman, 15 kms (9 miles) north of Kabul, and launched a series of operations against Moslem rebels near the Afghan capital, diplomatic sources reported here today.

Paghman, the site of the former Afghan monarchy's summer residence, was recaptured on Saturday after being the scene of heavy fighting since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan December 1980. The Afghan garrison there was practically besieged by the Soviet-Afghan forces.

Diplomats said Kabul television on Sunday broadcast the first footage filmed in Paghman for two years. The sources said two powerful tank columns joined up, forcing the rebels to withdraw to the mountains, which left the town in the hands of the Soviet-backed government.

The television programme showed a member of the Afghan People's Democratic Party Central Committee giving a speech and a crowd of Afghans who were "rejoicing at the defeat of the lackeys of imperialism," according to the official commentary.

Although the rebels said they inflicted heavy losses on the Soviet-Afghan forces and withdrew without casualties, they have given up a position which due to its proximity to the capital could be seen as symbolising the fragility of the government.

East of Paghman, in the Shamali region, hundreds of Soviet tanks are said by resistance sources to have taken up positions in a disputed zone which has changed hands several times, and to have shelled three villages where rebels were based.

Mohammad Amin Vardak, a rebel leader from the central Vardak Province, said in Islamabad that a large number of Soviet troops from units based in the southern towns of Gardez and Qandahar crossed his valley in mid-June prior to invading Lowgar Province.

Resistance groups were forced to retreat from the town of Ghazni, south of Kabul, after Soviet tanks were sent to the assistance of the Soviet-Afghan garrison there, Mr Vardak said.

He said that while Soviet planes continually pounded Vardak, the Soviet Army advanced on Lowgar Province where, according to diplomats based in Kabul, the rebels could face difficulties because of two Pashtu tribes, the Tori and Jaji, favorable to the government.

Several dozen civilians were reportedly killed during clashes between Soviet forces and rebels resisting their advance in the region of Maidan.

In Kabul itself, members of the ruling Afghan People's Democratic Party were murdered and explosions were heard at night, diplomatic sources said.

They said that on July 7 the authorities held a press conference for reporters and foreign diplomats to brief them on last month's offensive on the Panjsher Valley.

General Abdul Gafur, of the Afghan military staff, said the rebels had been utterly defeated, while resistance sources in Kabul and here maintained that the rebels had fallen back to the southwestern sector of the valley.

AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN UNION LEADER INTERVIEWED

GF131728 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 11 Jul 82 p 11

[Interview granted by Abd ar-Basul Sayyaf, chairman of the Islamic Union of Afghan Mujahidin, to AL-MADINAH correspondent Yusuf Fadil -- place and date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: At the beginning, can you review the historical development of the jihad movement through the formation of the Islamic Union of Afghan Mujahidin?

Answer: Attempts to form this union began 1 and 1/2 years ago but it was formed only 6 months ago. The union officially began work 2 and 1/2 months ago. Before the formation of this union, the Afghan mujahidin were divided into many organizations. In general seven organizations are now members of the union. They are:

1. The Islamic Party led by engineer Hikmatyar.
2. The Islamic Society led by Burhanzuddin Rabbani.
3. The Islamic Party (2) led by Mohammad Yunis Khalis.
4. The Islamic Revolution Movement led by Nasrollah Mansur.
5. The Islamic Revolution Movement (2) led by Rafiullah al-Muazin.
6. The Islamic Front led by Mohammad Mir.
7. The Islamic Union for the Liberation of Afghanistan led by Abd ar-Rasul Sayyaf.

Question: Information media recently carried reports on the jihad in Afghanistan. Can you brief us on the latest developments there?

Answer: Thank God, the jihad is progressing every day. As you know, the mujahidin in Afghanistan began their jihad with very primitive means, but with the assistance of God and because of their reliance on God, religion and faith, they were able to continue their jihad and wage a fierce struggle against the communists. The mujahidin have organized battalions now. Over 26,000 mujahidin are carrying weapons to confront the enemies all over Afghanistan, from the east to the west and from the north to the south. The Afghan fighters have inflicted great losses on the enemy. Over 80 percent of Afghan territory is now under their control. The Soviet troops are stationed in Kabul, a number of airports and in counties of a number of provinces. All the [other] Afghan territories are under the control of mujahidin. However, this does not mean that security, tranquillity and stability prevail in the liberated areas, because these areas are subjected to air raids day and night.

Question: These battles and the struggle you are waging for your country require weapons, of course. From where do you get these weapons?

Answer: Up to now we have not received weapons from any country. The best source of our weapons is the enemy itself, either in war booty or by sales. Many of the communist government's soldiers sell their ammunition to the mujahidin. We do not need any infantry weapons now because we have over 26,000 fighters armed with machineguns and rifles. We need antiaircraft arms.

Question: The Soviets said that they intervened in Afghanistan at the request of the Afghan Government itself. What is your union's reply to this claim?

Answer: The Soviets want to use Afghanistan as a bridge to cross to other parts of the world. They want a base for propagating their imperialist ideology and spreading their dirty ambitions, which are aimed at containing the Islamic world, especially, Pakistan, Iran and the Arabian Peninsula. They are continuing their aggression against Islam and the religion, principles and faith of Muslims.

Question: Has the Islamic Union of Afghan Mujahidin announced any specific political program?

Answer: Our policy is clear. We want to establish an Islamic state based on the Koran.

RAO LEAVES FOR NICOSIA NONALIGNED MEETING

BK140747 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 14 Jul 82

[Text] External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao left New Delhi this morning for Nicosia to attend the Nonaligned Coordination Bureau meeting beginning tomorrow on the Lebanese crisis. Before departure, Rao told newsmen at Delhi airport that there is anxiety among the nonaligned countries over the question and he is hopeful an effective solution will be found at the meeting.

DELHI ANNOUNCES GANDHI U.S. ITINERARY

BK131621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jul 82

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi will have a heavy schedule of engagements during her 10-day visit to the United States which begins on the 27th of this month.

According to the tentative program announced by a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry, Mrs Gandhi will leave New Delhi on the 27th by a special aircraft and arrive in New York the same evening. She will be accompanied by a high-level delegation.

She will meet UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar on the 28th. Later, she will go to Washington and spend 4 days there.

On the 29th, Mrs Gandhi will meet President Reagan and address a press conference. She will have a meeting with members of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. She will also confer with congressmen and senators. That night, President Reagan will host a banquet in honor of Mrs Gandhi at the White House.

On the 30th, she will attend a luncheon meeting at the National Press Club and the same afternoon World Bank President Claussen will call on her. In the evening, Indian Ambassador K.R. Narayanan will host a reception in honor of the prime minister. The same night, Mrs Gandhi will give a dinner in honor of U.S. Vice President George Bush.

On the 31st of July, Mrs Gandhi will return to New York, where she will have a meeting with Indian scientists, businessmen and other leaders of the Indian community.

On the 2d of August, Mrs Gandhi will receive the U Thant Award. The award will be conferred on her by the trust set up by U Thant, former UN secretary general. From New York, Mrs Gandhi will go to Los Angeles where she will meet Dr Jonas Salk -- inventor of the polio vaccine, on the 3d.

After spending a day in Honolulu, Mrs Gandhi will return to New Delhi on the 5th via Tokyo.

GANDHI REMARKS ON U.S., PAKISTAN, USSR CITED

BK121055 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Jul 82

[Text] The prime minister has said her forthcoming visit to the United States will be used for trying to create a better understanding of India's difficulties and achievements. In an interview with the American magazine NEWSWEEK, Mrs Gandhi described Mr Reagan as an open person willing to listening. Mrs Gandhi, however, pointed out that many things the Reagan administration has been doing are not in our country's interest.

She said giving sophisticated weapons to Pakistan, when India and Pakistan desperately need money for development purposes, is leading to an arms race which we don't want. She said Pakistan has always used American arms against India and wondered what else will they do with the arms now.

The prime minister dismissed as propaganda the suggestion that the country is tilting toward the Soviet Union. She said India has friendly relations with the Soviet Union as it has with all the European countries.

PAKISTAN ACQUIRED FRENCH-BUILT EXOCET MISSILES

BK091013 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Jul 82

[Text] The government is aware of reports that Pakistan has acquired French-manufactured Exocet missiles. The French-built Exocet missiles were used by Argentina in its recent war with the United Kingdom over the Falkland Islands while bombing the British warships. This was stated by Deputy Defense Minister K.P. Singhdeo in the Lok Sabha.

The minister said the government has taken note of these developments and steps are being taken to curb the possible threat through the employment of such highly sophisticated weapons.

FINANCE MINISTER SPEAKS ON ARRANGEMENT WITH IMF

BK140036 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jul 82

[Text] The government reassured Parliament today that the extended arrangement with the International Monetary Fund is in conformity with the policy of prudent management of foreign debt. Making a statement in both houses, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee said the IMF approved on the 9th of this month the withdrawal of another 1.8 billion special drawing rights [SDR's] between this month and the 30th of June next year. This decision followed the successful negotiations with the IMF regarding the second year's program under the extended agreement for a total of 5 billion SDR's to be provided during a 3-year period.

Mukherjee also drew the attention of members to the performance criteria agreed upon in regard to the program for 1982-83 and said this reflects our own priorities and policies endorsed by Parliament. The government will continue to ensure that our basic policies are not compromised during the extended arrangement with the IMF.

DELHI REPORTS ON 12 JULY PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

BK130415 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Voting was nearly 100 percent in the presidential poll which ended in New Delhi and the state capitals this evening. Zail Singh and H.R. Khanna are the two candidates. In New Delhi 743 members of Parliament and 5 members of Legislative Assembly cast their votes. Seven members of Parliament had sought permission to vote in the state capitals. Two MP's, who are abroad, did not take part in the polling. One member of the Lok Sabha had been debarred from voting under court orders.

The counting of votes will be taken up at 1130 on Thursday [15 July] at the Parliament House. The result is expected to be announced the same evening.

MANIPUR EDUCATION SECRETARY ASSASSINATED

BK121341 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Jul 82

[Text] R.K. Robindro Singh, education secretary of Manipur, was shot dead this morning at his residence in Imphal by an unidentified gunman. Reports quoting official sources say three young men came to his house and one of them fired on him from pointblank range. Singh died on his way to the hospital. A search is on for the assailants.

IRAQIS CONTINUE TO ATTACK BORDER CITIES 13 JULY

LD131824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jul 82

[Text] According to an IRNA report, contrary to the false claims of the Iraq's Ba'thist-Zionist regime disseminated by (?loudspeakers) to the effect that it is obliged to observe a unilateral cease-fire, Saddam's defeated army last night and today again fiercely attacked Mehran with tanks and long-range artillery from Qolleh Avizan, from Sar-e Sha'bi border post and from Ab Ziya'i 1 km from the border. Damage was inflicted on the city. Also, Saddam at-Tikriti's mercenaries subjected the ruins of Qasr-e Shirin, Naftshahr and Sumar to their artillery fire several times during the past 24 hours.

According to this report, Islam's combatant forces are established in their new positions in Qasr-e Shirin, Sumar, Naftshahr and Zahab and operations by our engineering units to detect and defuse minefields are continuing. During the past 24 hours, 400 different mines have been detected and defused in the Meymak and Konjancham areas.

According to a Central News Unit report, so far over 60,000 mines have been detected and dismantled in the various border regions of the provinces of Bakhtaran and Ilam. According to the same report, this number of mines only concerns the named areas and after dismantling the mines in these areas work will continue to detect other mines.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 973

LD131736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jul 82

[Communique No 973 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The constantly ready combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the true followers of the ideological school of Imam 'Ali -- may peace be upon him -- continue to battle heroically and manfully against the forces of blasphemy in the trenches of honor and faith. During the past 24 hours, a fierce exchange of fire continued in Meymak and Shur-e Shirin and there was sporadic fire at other points in the western parts of the country. Our forces opened artillery fire on enemy supply points, positions, squad trenches, weapons and assembly points and inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy and silenced the artillery fire of the Saddamist forces.

On the Nowsud front, there was an exchange of fire, in which the forces of Islam maintained their superiority.

In the Marivan region, our artillery units opened fire on enemy positions in the vicinity of Toveyleh and, as a result, many of their trenches were destroyed and enemy movements were prevented.

In the operational zones in the southern parts of the country, our combatant forces returned enemy fire, fiercely pounding the positions of the Iraqi forces on the opposite bank of the Arvand Rud.

As a result of fire opened by the coastal units of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran stationed on the banks of the Arvand Rud, 30 enemy squad trenches and 1 ammunition dump of the Saddamists situated on the opposite bank of the river were destroyed and their artillery fire was silenced. A number of Iraqi servicemen were also either killed or wounded.

Yesterday the Khorramshahr region and the residential areas and oil installations of Abadan periodically came under heavy enemy fire, as a result of which 13 of our compatriots in those areas were wounded and 6 buildings in Abadan were set ablaze and destroyed.

In the operational zones in the southern parts of the country, the enemy has continued to set up earthworks and fortifications on our side of the border and is strengthening its positions.

During the past 24 hours, enemy air attacks on our border regions in the southern and western parts of the country were thwarted, thanks to the alertness and the antiaircraft fire of our air defense units. The attacking aircraft fled from the scene.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRANIAN FORCES BEGIN ADVANCE INTO IRAQ

Joint Communique

LD140340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 14 Jul 82

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Before our foreign newscast, we draw your attention to the joint communique of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran released at 0300 [2330 GMT] this morning.

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the name of God, the crusher of the oppressors, the Muslim and struggling nation of Islam, the [words indistinct] and martyr-nurturing people of Iran, God's blessings to you and to your warlike and brave sons. Honor, pride and victory to you, the nation, who with your patience, resistance and selflessness are walking the path of God and are teaching the aggressive enemies and the oppressors that is how Islam gives the reply to aggression.

Last night the champion nation of Iran -- under the circumstances when the anti-Islam Satans are using all of their might and effort to stop the army of Islam's repeated victorious operations against the aggressive, Ba'thist Zionist forces of Saddam and to tread on all of the efforts and the blood of the warriors of Islam in confronting 22 months of aggression, crimes, savagery and damages inflicted by the Ba'thist and 'Aflaqi regime of Iraq, which is connected to imperialism -- relying on the boundless power of God and His blessings in this blessed month, launched the extended operations of the combatants of Islam called "Operation Ramadan."

These operations, which follow the instructions issued by the central Karbala' headquarters, the joint operational headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and which bear the code-name "Oh lord of the ages, we are responding to your call," began at 2130 last night and are still continuing. Chanting "God is great," the combatants of Islam have thus far been able to cross the first enemy bunkers, and are continuing to advance. These operations, which are being carried out with the help of the blessings of the hidden imam and at the command of his rightful deputy, Imam Khomeyni, in order to complete the defense of the Islamic homeland, to prevent another aggression by the Saddamists and other allies of America, to stop the [word indistinct] fire on the cities of the Islamic homeland and to reach the set targets, are currently continuing with fierce fighting with the duped and aggressive forces of Saddam.

At these dear times and on these holy nights, the combatants of Islam, these lovers of the Islamic homeland who are going to liberate Jerusalem, passing through Karbala', from the claws of the aggressive and criminal Zionism, ask the martyr-nurturing nation to pray to Almighty God for the victory of the army of Islam and for His divine and invisible assistance. With hope for the Islamic combatants' final victory and liberation of Muslims from the claws of occupying Zionism. With the assistance of God, victory is near.

[Signed] The Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Call to Iraqis

GF140701 [Editorial Report] Tehran International Service in Arabic on 14 July at 0615 GMT carried the following announcement:

"To the Iraqi courageous forces, to the noble Iraqi people:

"Our Islamic audacious forces, as you know, will always be strictly committed to the teachings and laws of Islam. So do not let the Saddam regime and its surrogates make you believe that our forces are going to invade Iraq to cause its destruction and corruption as the Iraqi agent forces did to the Muslim peoples and their cities in Iran.

"O brothers, our Islamic army is coming to liberate you from the slavery of the Saddamist-Zionist regime and open the way for the liberation of holy Jerusalem after bargaining the issue of the Palestinian people for over 30 years. O Iraqi brothers, demonstrate your mutiny against the Saddamist loathed forces. Go to the streets and (?topple) this corrupt regime and arrest all 'Aflaqi agents and [words indistinct] to obstruct the people's upheaval and advance in the direction of crushing the chains of Saddamist slavery.

"O Iraqi people, do not fear the threats of Saddam and his agents. Our forces will not lay down arms until this infidel agent regime and all symbols of treason in Baghdad have been toppled."

'Hundreds' of Iraqis Captured

GF140807 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 14 Jul 82

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] This is Tehran, the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The latest military report we have received from the fronts says that since the start of Operation Ramadan and until 0600 today, hundreds of deceived Saddamists have been captured. The Islamic forces are still counting and evacuating the prisoners.

Morning Press Headlines

GF140836 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 14 Jul 82

[From the "Press Review" program]

[Excerpt] In its main headline, JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI says: "Islam's Forces Begin the Purging Process Against Mercenary Saddam's Forces Within the Iraqi Territories."

Another subtitle in the same paper says: "Our Heroes Destroy Saddam's First Lines of Defense During the Early Hours of Their Offensive."

SOBH-E AZADEGAN carried the following headline: "A Widescale Offensive Was Launched by Our Islamic Forces Aganist Saddam's Mercenaries in Which They Have Destroyed the Saddamist Enemy's Frontier Entrenchments".

Bushehr Red Alert

CF140823 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 0816 GMT 14 Jul 82

[Text] This is Bushehr, Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Dear listeners: According to our information a red alert condition is announced for the entire province as of this moment. We invite you, dear listeners, to comply with all the red alert safety regulations. [sound of siren]

Alert Ends

CF141015 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 0917 GMT 14 Jul 82

[Text] Dear listeners: As of this moment a yellow alert condition is declared for the Bushehr Province. Please comply with all the respective safety regulations.

Iraqis Bomb Ilam

LD141038 Tehran IRNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 14 Jul 82

[Text] [dateline indistinct] At 1200 today four Iraqis MiG aircraft bombed the city of Ilam in the west of the country. In the wake of this savage attack the city was filled with fire and smoke. Casualties have not been announced as yet. Detailed reports will follow.

Khomeyni Message

LD141112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jul 82

[From the news headlines]

[Text] Following the victorious operations launched by the brave soldiers of the army of Islam, Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and commander in chief, issued a message addressed to the oppressed and imprisoned Iraqi nation and the combatants of Islam.

In this message Imam Khomeyni referring to the [word indistinct] of the army of Islam inside Iraqi territory. Addressing the Iraqi nation, he emphasized: Now that your brothers are sacrificing themselves and giving their lives to come to you in order to guard their homeland and save their beloved imprisoned brothers [the Iraqis], rise up and, inspired by the great Islam, attack the enemies of Islam.

In his message, the hope of the world's oppressed emphasized: O you, the zealous Basrah inhabitants! Welcome your faithful brothers and cut the hands of the blasphemous 'Aflaqis from your homeland. O you, the inhabitants of the holy shrine; O you, the zealous youths who have attacked [word indistinct] at any opportunity, use the opportunity God has offered you and rise up in a manly manner and govern your own destiny.

Addressing the Iraqi military men, the great leader of the revolution emphasized: O you, the military men who have been enslaved by the blasphemous party, who [words indistinct]! Your brothers have come to save you and are going to send this blasphemous regime to hell with reliance on the Almighty and self-sacrifice. You, the imprisoned beloved ones, rise up and with the help of your Iranian brothers save your homeland and do not let [words indistinct].

Addressing the zealous Iranian youths, Imam Khomeyni emphasized: It is your human and Islamic duty to [words indistinct] rushed toward the battlefronts in a manly manner and [words indistinct] and know that the morale of the Iraqi Army is completely gone and that today Islam needs you brave young men.

Successes Noted

LD141052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jul 82

[From the news headlines]

[Text] At 2130 last night Operation Ramadan commenced with a lightning attack by the forces of Islam on enemy positions, and their entry into Iraq.

During the first stage of the extensive Ramadan Operation the forces of Islam advanced many kilometers into Iraq.

The Iraqi 2d and 9th Divisions were completely destroyed.

Iraq's 26th Armored Brigade was completely routed.

Large numbers of the Ba'thist aggressors were killed.

Large quantities of equipment belonging to the aggressive Ba'thist Zionist Iraqi forces were destroyed or captured by the forces of Islam.

The fast-flying pilots and antiaircraft fire of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran shot down four Iraqi aircraft in the skies over Khuzestan.

Iraqis Bomb Khorramabad

LD141142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1048 GMT 14 Jul 82

[Excerpts] According to a report by IRNA, intruding Iraqi aircraft (?three times) violated Khorramabad airspace and from a high altitude bombed the residential areas of the aforesaid cities [as heard] in an aimless and savage manner. This was a result of the grave defeat of the Saddam's mercenary army in confrontation with the combatants of Islam.

This report states that as a result of the savage bombings of Khorramabad, hundreds of the people of this city fell in dust and blood. Damage was inflicted upon the tribal martyrs' hospital and the Khorramabad reconstruction crusade and one of the workers of the Mobilization, who was working, was martyred. About 30 residential houses were also damaged. Among the martyrs, 80-year-old men and women and 1-year-old babies could be seen.

The IRNA report also states that the intruding aircraft of the Ba'thist Zionist Iraqi regime from a high altitude bombed the cities of Bakhtaran and Ilam in a savage and random manner. As a result, people's houses were destroyed and several other houses caught fire.

The same report states that the intruding Iraqi aircraft several other times intended to bomb residential areas of border cities of our country from a low altitude but they were forced to flee through the vigilance of the combatants of the air defense unit.

SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON WAR PROTESTED

LD131750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jul 82

[Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran -- date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. After 22 months of overt and covert political and military assistance given to the mercenary regime of Saddam by all the powers of the world, this morning the superpowers announced their open support for the Ba'thist regime of Iraq in its aggressive war against the Islamic Republic of Iran through a resolution of the UN Security Council.

The resolution, which was prepared by Iraq, was given to Jordanian King Husayn -- who himself has declared war against the Islamic Republic of Iran and has openly supported Saddam by dispatching his military forces -- to present to the so-called Security Council. Before entering the session, the United States and the Soviet Union reached agreement between themselves on articles of the resolution; and the unanimity of views among members of the council became clear.

The refusal of the Iranian ambassador to the United Nations to take part in this session, despite the insistence of the president of the Security Council and of the deputy UN secretary general, in fact neutralized the pre-hatched plot of the superpowers against the Muslim and risen people of Iran. This refusal underlined the unreliability of the resolution. This unreliability has now become part of the nature of these resolutions.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the approval of this resolution to be a coordinated and organized effort launched by the superpowers in order to prevent the Islamic Republic of Iran from regaining its natural rights, and an attempt to prevent the certain collapse of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime. The Foreign Ministry hereby announces that it will continue its relentless struggle for realization of its righteous demands, which were stated on the first day of aggression launched by the mercenary forces of the 'Aflaqite Saddam against the Islamic homeland.

Envoy Condemns Resolution

LD131212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jul 82

[Text] Last night the UN Security Council, in a conspiratorial act to save Saddam, in a session under the title of "Reviewing the Iran-Iraq War," issued a resolution signed by the 15 countries, approving the following points:

1. Commencement of a cease-fire.

2. Withdrawal of all troops.

3. Stationing a (?contingent) of peace-keeping forces. According to Mr Raja'i, Iran's permanent representative to the UN, these forces would not necessarily safeguard peace for the UN [as heard] and would probably consist of armed forces from reactionary countries in the region and protectors of Iraq.

4. The resolution encourages the warring countries to implement all of [the resolution's] points, with each other's cooperation, and to strengthen the peace-keeping forces.

The resolution asks the UN secretary general to implement its points as soon as possible and to submit a report on its execution within 2 months.

Iran's permanent representative to the UN said during an interview that this plan has been prepared by the U.S. State Department, Jordan and also by the Foreign Ministry of the Baghdad regime to suppress the Islamic revolution on the one hand, and to force the Palestinians to compromise with the United States and the Zionist regime on the other.

Mr Raja'i also declared in an interview with an Islamic Republic correspondent that this council invited Iran's representative to attend the council session. But, since the invitation was a calculated and conspiratorial plan, we did not attend the session. Considering the fact that all the 15 council members had been in favor of the pre-planned resolution and any opposition by the Islamic Republic would certainly have had no effect in preventing it [the session] from being held, he called the motive behind inviting Iran's representative a plot to justify the session and to place Iran in an awkward position. He declared that by not attending the session, we saved ourselves from heavy, conspiratorial diplomatic pressure.

Musavi Views Resolution

LD131146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jul 82

[Text] Following the UN Security Council session and that council's interference to put an end to Iraq's aggression against Iran, the political correspondent of the Central News Unit interviewed Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi today. The correspondent asked him for his opinion on the Security Council resolution.

The prime minister said: The Security Council has voted for a cease-fire and for international observers -- namely American, Russian and European -- to come here and supervise the cease-fire, just like what they have been doing in southern Lebanon. Then the Islamic regime of Iran is to sit at the same table with the 'Aflaqite regime and solve their problems. The prime minister added: This is to be expected from a Security Council which includes the five big bully countries with veto rights. In fact, the Security Council vote is America's and Russia's vote of confidence in Saddam. We do not know why the Security Council spent the past 2 years sleeping and why it was suddenly awakened by the liberation of Khorramshahr. In any case, we do not need foreign forces on our borders. These forces would do better to protect the interests of oppressive forces somewhere else.

Even if the Security Council issues 10 more resolutions, we will not abandon our rightful claims. Saddam's regime should leave our territories unconditionally, pay for the damages and be condemned. In that case, the war will automatically come to an end.

The prime minister finally added: The fact that all the permanent members of the Security Council -- namely, those with veto rights -- have not vetoed this resolution and since in the past resolutions endangering the interests of these countries were vetoed, in itself demonstrates our independent, Islamic policies. This proves the "Neither East nor West" policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, confirms that we have not bribed any of the superpowers and is the reason why they did not veto the resolution which would have supported us as they do when any of their satellite countries are involved.

TEHRAN CALLS FOR MUSLIM UNITY ON JERUSALEM DAY

GF130900 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 12 Jul 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Are We Preparing for Jerusalem Day?"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: We are currently observing a Ramadan in which Israel, the highwayman state of Zionist Jews, is gradually extending its nearly 40-year-long usurpation and occupation of the Muslim land of Palestine over Lebanon as well -- a move which has resulted in the murder of tens of thousands of civilian Muslims, including women, children and elderly people, with the heaviest of arms, napalm bombs included. In the face of the crimes being committed in Lebanon, which recall those committed by Hitler, part of the hundreds of millions of Muslims living in the one-third of the inhabited part of the world is maintaining a killing silence under the oppression of idolatrous regimes which are puppets of infidel forces.

Meanwhile, as millions of Muslims compete with one another to break their fast with a large variety of delicious foods, the members of a section of the Muslim masses who live in Palestine and Afghanistan and in countries whose regimes do not rule according to God's commandments -- in other words the infidel and oppressive regimes which the Muslims have to regard as idolatrous -- feel proud of drinking the syrup of martyrdom after shedding the last drop of their blood in their resistance aimed at safeguarding their faith and honor as Muslim entities. However, such murderous regimes cannot exist forever. It is impossible to consider oppression as being everlasting.

Let us recall that after the victory of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni recommended to the world Muslims that they mark the last Friday of the month of Ramadan as Jerusalem Day. In compliance with Imam Khomeyni's call, a section of the world Muslims has been marking the last Friday of Ramadan as Jerusalem Day for the past three years.

Dear brothers, next Friday is the last Friday of the month of Ramadan. Wherever we may be on that day, let us all chant the slogan "God is great" in our protest against not only Israel, which has been occupying Palestine, Jerusalem and Lebanon, but also against all the lackeys, representatives and puppets of imperialist infidels and idolatrous regimes in Islamic lands.

Let us rid our mosques of idolatrous entities and turn them into our bastions. Let us get together in them and talk about the measures to be taken to rectify the bewildering situation of the world Muslims and draw attention to the fact that imperialist infidels and their extensions in the world are endeavoring to deceive Muslims, either by threatening them with death or by offering them bribes.

Muslims may ask what can be done in the event imperialist infidels and their servants do not allow the staging of demonstrations on Jerusalem Day. Brothers, keep in mind that we do not need to ask their permission to do anything. Nor should we feel obliged to do so. Moreover, we have to rid ourselves of such ridiculous ideas. We have to act with the understanding that no matter where we live, we have to turn the land we walk upon into a true homeland -- that is to say we have to surrender it to God's commandment and build bastions on it.

Therefore, in the name of God and with the inspiration we get from the sacred spirit of Ramadan, let us rise as the Muslims of the world to oppose the belittling attacks that are being directed against Islam and its followers, without heeding those who are cunningly moving to set different dates to mark Jerusalem Day just because Imam Khomeyni has recommended the last Friday of Ramadan for the occasion.

We have arrived at the point we stand at today by heeding the mentality that the snake which does not bite us should be permitted to live. Well, it has now become crystal clear that the time has come for the snake to bite all of us together. In fact, all the superpowers are cooperating with each other and in the face of the crimes being committed -- crimes which their lackeys are referring to with only a few words -- they are focusing their attention on the possibility of a major uprising by the Muslims. They are indeed daunted by this possibility. Needless to say, however, God is taking care of the world Muslims.

Therefore, on the last Friday of Ramadan the world Muslims must be courageous enough to display the unity of the believers against the White House and the Kremlin and against the keepers of their observation posts in Islamic lands. The world Muslims must accept right from the very beginning the problems they may have to face as a result of committing the crime of displaying unity. But this will help them prove that they are capable of waging a determined struggle.

World Muslims, are you prepared to take the first step into the struggle which will document the [word indistinct] of the people for the marking of Jerusalem Day on the last Friday of Ramadan?